Of such a nature Is his politick love. This was my lord's best hope ; now all are fled, Save the gods only [4] : Now his friends are dead, Doors, that were ne'er acquainted with their wards
Many a bounteous year, must be employ'd Now to guard sure their master.

a height* as to make even Satan himself, in comparison, appear (what he would least of all wish to be) spotless and innocent."

Clear is in many other places used by our author and the contemporary writers, for *innocent. So,* in The Tempest:

"*------nothing but heart's sorrow,
"And a *clear* life
ensuing." Again, in
Macbeth:
"------This Duncan
" Hath borne his faculties so meek, hath
been " So *clear m* his great office—."
Again, in the play before us :
"[f] Roots, ye *clear* gods ! "
Again, in Marlowe's Lust's
Dominion, 1657 :
«---------1 know myself am *clear*
** As is the new-born infant." M ALONE. The devil's folly in making man politick, is to appear in this, that he will at the long run be too many for his old master, and get free of his bonds. The villainies of man are to set himself clear, not the devil, to whom he is supposed to be in thraldom. RITSON.

Concerning this difficult passage, I claim no other merit than that of having left before the reader the notes of all the commentators. I myself am in the state of Dr. Warburton's devil,— puzzled, instead of being *set clear* by them. STEEVENS.

3 ,— takes VIRTUOUS COPIES to be wicked; like those, &c.]
This is a reflection on the Puritans of that time. These people
were then set upon the project of new-modelling the ecclesiastical
and civil government according to scripture rules and examples ;
which makes him say,, that *under zeal* for the word of God, they
would set whole realms on Jire. So, Sempronius pretended to
that warm affection and generous jealousy of friendship, that is
affronted, if any other be applied to before it. At best the simili
tude is an raukward one; but it fitted the *audience^* though not
the *speaker.* WARBURTON.

4 Save the gods only:] Olcl copy—" Save only the gods,"
transposition is Sir Thomas Hanmer's."
STEEVENS,